

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 COME-00 SS-15 EB-07 L-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00

DLOS-06 OES-06 AGR-05 AGRE-00 PM-04 H-02 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 EURE-00 /091 W

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P 141437Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8692

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 14467

RIO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE BLACKWELL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, UR, US

SUBJECT: DELIVERY OF NOTE ON SOVIET VIOLATION OF MARITIME AGREEMENT

REF: A) STATE 226572, B) MOSCOW 13089, C) STATE 190964

1. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR ACCOMPANIED BY ECON OFFICER DELIVERED NOTE AS GIVEN REF A TO DEPUTY CHIEF FEDOSEYEV OF USA DIVISION, MFA, AND COUNSELOR TRIFONOV ON SEPTEMBER 14.

AT OUTSET, ECONOMIC COUNSELOR EMPHASIZED POINTS IN PARA 1, REF A AND REMINDED THAT A DIFFICULT POLITICAL ISSUE COULD DEVELOP UNLESS THE CURRENT PROBLEMS WERE SOON RESOLVED.

2. TRIFONOV RESPONDED INITIALLY BY REAFFIRMING POSITION TAKEN IN SOVIET NOTE OF AUGUST 18, REF B, THAT US HAD BEEN OFFERED A ONE-THIRD SHARE AND THAT FOR TECHNICAL REASONS BEYOND SOVIET CONTROL US SHIPS HAD NOT ACTUALLY CARRIED THAT AMOUNT. HE SAID THE US NOTE WOULD BE REFERRED TO THE MINISTRY OFDXZDFHA L GGMARINE FOR SPECIFIC ANALYSIS. IN RESPONSE TO ECON COUNSELOR'S QUESTION, HOWEVER, TRIFONOV DID CONCEDE THAT ACCORDING TO AGREEMENT, CONFIDENTIAL

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THE US MUST CARRY ITS ONE-THIRD SHARE, NOT MERELY BE OFFERED IT.

WHY IT WAS NOT SO DOING, HOWEVER, WAS ANOTHER ISSUE.

3. FEDOSEYEV THEN COMMENTED THAT THE USSR ATTACHES "SERIOUS IMPORTANCE" TO THE MARITIME AGREEMENT. WHILE HE COULD NOT AGREE WITH THE DESCRIPTION IN THE US NOTE OF SOVIET ACTIONS, HE HOPED SOMETHING WOULD BE WORKED OUT AS IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR BOTH SIDES TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE.

4. COMMENT: THE SOVIETS HAVE AGAIN BEEN MADE AWARE OF THE GRAVITY WITH WHICH WE VIEW THE CONTINUING VIOLATIONS OF THE MARITIME AGREEMENT AND HAVE BEEN WARNED THAT IMMEDIATE CORRECTIVE ACTION IS NECESSARY. WE WERE SOMEWHAT ENCOURAGED BY FEDOSEYEV'S REMARKS WHICH COULD IMPLY THAT MFA WILL NOW WEIGH IN STRONGER WITH MERCHANT MARINE MINISTRY OFFICIALS.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, MARITIME LAW, EAST WEST TRADE, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW14467
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760346-0938
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760963/aaaacbnd.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 226572, 76 MOSCOW 13089, 76 STATE 190964
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DELIVERY OF NOTE ON SOVIET VIOLATION OF MARITIME AGREEMENT
TAGS: EWWT, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006